

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 13066 181516Z

61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /062 W

----- 035765

R 181437Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7681

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 13066

PASS USDA/FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, UR

SUBJECT: MOSCOW SUNDAY CLOSING OF GASTRONOMS

REF: MOSCOW 13065

1. SUMMARY: CLOSING OF CERTAIN MOSCOW GASTRONOMS (GROCERY STORES) CONFIRMED. SIGNIFICANCE AND SCOPE NOT CLEAR, BUT WE DOUBT THAT CLOSINGS ARE DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO FOOD SITUATION OR TO FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN MEAT OUTPUT IN JULY. END SUMMARY.

2. AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF MOSCOW GASTRONOMS HAVE SIGNS UP ON PREMISES INDICATING THAT THEY WILL BE CLOSED SUNDAYS. SUCH RETAIL OUTLETS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OPEN ON SUNDAYS. SIGNS, GIVE NO EXPLANATION OF CLOSURE.

3. ON BASIS OF PRESENT INFORMATION, NUMBER INVOLVED IS NOT LARGE. AP CONDUCTED PHONE SURVEY OF TEN STORES YESTERDAY AND ONLY ONE REPORTED IT WOULD NOT BE OPEN. EMBOFFS HAVE ALSO SEEN SIGNS ONLY ON RELATIVELY FEW STORES. ANOTHER CHECKED ALL STORES IN HIS RESIDENTIAL AREA, WITH NEGATIVE RESULT. THERE APPEARS NO GEOGRAPHIC PATTERN TO THESE CLOSURES. NO LOCAL NEWS STORIES HAVE BEEN NOTED ON MATTER, BUT REUTERS CALLED RESPONSIBLE MOSCOW AGENCY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 13066 181516Z

WHICH CONFIRMED SOME CLOSINGS, BUT WOULD NOT GIVE TOTAL

FIGURES NOR REASONS FOR NEW POLICY.

4. ALTHOUGH IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT WIRE SERVICE FILED STORY YESTERDAY ON THESE CLOSINGS INDICATING RELATIONSHIP TO FOOD SHORTAGES, EMBASSY CONSIDERS THIS IMPROBABLE. IT IS, OF COURSE, POSSIBLE, AND MEAT OUTPUT FIGURES (SOCIALIZED) ANNOUNCED IN TODAY'S EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA SHOW FURTHER DECLINES IN JULY. ON OTHER HAND, THE QUANTITIES OF FOOD WHICH COULD BE SAVED THROUGH THIS ACTION WOULD BE MINIMAL. FURTHER, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SUPPLIES IN MOSCOW ARE FINALLY REACHING SUMMER PEAK. (SOME NON-FOOD STORES NORMALLY OPEN ON SUNDAYS, CLOSE ON SUNDAYS DURING JULY AND AUGUST, BECAUSE OF VACATION SCHEDULES OF STAFFS). ABOVE-MENTIONED MEAT AND OTHER FOOD OUTPUT STATISTICS REPORTED IN REF. TEL. FYI, REGULAR MONTHLY EMBASSY SPOTCHECKS OF RETAIL FOOD OUTLETS BEING MADE ON AUGUST 19 AND 20.

5. FURTHER INFO ON MATTER WLL BE REPORTED ASAP.

STOESSEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MARKETS, FOOD SHORTAGE, MEATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW13066
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760317-0317
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760843/aaaabksc.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOSCOW 13065
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOSCOW SUNDAY CLOSING OF GASTRONOMS
TAGS: EAGR, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006